

## Message Text

SECRET

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60

ACTION SS-25

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R 161559Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7232

S E C R E T CAIRO 10356

EXDIS

PLEASE PASS GENERAL GRAHAM FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI PFOR EG US OVIP

SUBJECT: VISIT OF GENERAL GRAHAM TO EGYPT

1. I MUCH REGRET THAT IT NOW APPEARS I WILL BE  
IN THE US DURING YOUR UPCOMING VISIT, BUT I AM  
PLEASED YOU ARE COMING. MY DEPUTY, FRANK MAESTRONE,  
AND BG SVENDSEN WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO  
MAKE YOUR VISIT PRODUCTIVE AND PLEASANT. IT MAY  
BE USEFUL TO CLARIFY SEVERAL POINTS FOR YOUR INFORMATION  
AND GUIDANCE.

2. AS YOU KNOW, MINWAR GENERAL GAMASY WILL BE YOUR  
HOST, BUT OME CONFUSION EXISTS HERE AND IN WASHINGTON  
AS TO WHO INVITED WHOM. SO THAT THERE IS NOT  
MISUNDERSTANDING, IT WAS WE WHO FIRST SOUNDED  
OUT MINWAR IN CAIRO ABOUT THE ACCEPTABILITY OF  
YOUR VISIT AND RECEIVED AN AFFIRMATIVE ANSWER.  
I APPROVED THIS APPRACH, ALTHOUGH IT SUBSEQUENTLY  
DEVELOPED THE VISIT HAD NOT BEEN CHECKED OUT WITH  
STATE AND I FOUND SOME EXPLANATION NECESSARY. I  
THINK THIS IS NOW IN ORDER.

3. THE VISIT WAS ALSO CLEARED BY ME WITH FOREIGN  
MINISTER FAHMY, BUT THE LATTER BECAME A BIT

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CONCERNED A FEW DAYS AGO ABOUT A LETTER FROM YOU

TO EGYPTIAN DCM WAHAB GIVING THE DATES OF YOUR VISIT AND SUGGESTING TO WAHAB YOU WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR OFFICIAL CALLS ON CERTAIN DATES. WAHAB APPARENTLY SENT THE LETTER TO FAHMY. THE LATTER WANTS TO PLAY YOUR VISIT IN LOW KEY AND AS A PURELY MILITARY AFFAIR. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE SINCE AWKWARD UNEF RENEWAL DEBATE MAY BE UNDERWAY AT THE TIME OF YOUR VISIT AND GOE IS MOST ANXIOUS AVOID SOVIETS, SYRIANS OR OTHERS TRYING TO ASSOCIATE YOUR PRESENCE IN EGYPT WITH AMERICAN STATIONS WHICH ARE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN SINAI. HENCE, FAHMY WANTS YOUR CALLS LIMITED TO MINWAR, CHIEF OF STAFF AND G2. THIS IS IN FACT CONSISTENT WITH SCHEDULE BG SVENDSEN HAS WORKED OUT. THERE IS, OF COURSE, NO PROHIBITION ON MEETING SECOND ARMY COMMANDER WHEN YOU VISIT CANAL AREA.

4. I SEE NO OBJECTION TO YOU BROACHING THE MATTER OF EXCHANGE OF CERTAIN KIND OF INFORMATION ON THE SOVIETS, BUT I URGE YOU TO BE VERY CAREFUL. THE SOVIETS HAVE ASSETS IN THE EGYPTIAN ARMY. ON THEIR PART, WHILE THE EGYPTIANS WANT CLOSER RELATIONS WITH US, THEY ARE DISAPPOINTED AT OUR CONTINUING RELUCTANCE TO PROVIDE ARMS AND ARE ALSO CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT THEY REMAIN DEPENDENT ON THE SOVIETS FOR ARMS. FOR THE MOMENT THE SOVIETS SEEM TO BE SQUEEZING THEM ON THIS SCORE, BUT THERE ARE MANY ELEMENTS IN THE EGYPTIAN ARMY AND GOVERNMENT WHO ARGUE THAT GOE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT CUT ALL TIES WITH SOVIETS. EVEN SOME PRO-AMERICAN ELEMENTS ARE AMONG THEM. REASONS ARE UNDERSTANDABLE.

5. THE FEELING ALSO EXISTS IN SOME GOE QUARTERS THAT USG, AND ESPECIALLY DIA, IS A DIRECT CONDUIT TO THE ISRAELIS. ONE REASON FOR THIS IS THAT CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS HAVE TOLD EGYPTIANS AT HIGHEST LEVEL THAT DIA ESTIMATES ALL OCTOBER LOSSES HAVE BEEN REPLACED, WHICH EGYPTIANS STOUTLY DENY. RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, THEY BELIEVE DIA IS TOO INFLUENCED BY ISRAELI ESTIMATES. YOU WILL WISH TO  
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KEEP THIS IN THE BACK OF YOUR MIND AND ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO INSTILL IN THE EGYPTIANS THE IDEA THAT DIA IS OPEN MINDED IN ARRIVING AT ITS CONCLUSIONS OUGHT TO HAVE LONG TERM VALUE.

6. GENERAL SVENDSEN HAS RAISED WITH ME THE MATTER OF HAVING A PLANE HERE. I DO NOT AT THIS POINT WANT ONE, SINCE IT SIMPLY RAISES OUR PROFILE

AND WE DO NOT NEED ONE. I AGREED TO LOOK AT IT  
AGAIN NEXT SPRING, BUT IN PRINCIPLE DO NOT FAVOR  
DATT AIRCRAFT BECAUSE OF THE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL  
THEY INVOLVE. I BELIEVE STRONGLY IN A LEAN AND  
EFFICIENT EMBASSY AND CONSIDER THE PRESENT STAFF  
IS ADEQUATE FOR THE ESSENTIALS OF OUR MISSION.

7. AGAIN, I AM DELIGHTED YOU ARE COMING AND WISH  
YOU A VERY SUCCESSFUL VISIT.  
EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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